

CLAIMS

1. A contour emphasizing circuit comprising a contour pick-up unit for sampling contour component from input video signal, a level judging unit for discriminating the luminance level of said input video signal, a coefficient control unit for selectively changing coefficient according to judging signal from the level judging unit and multiplying the contour component sampled by using said contour pick-up unit by the selected coefficient to output the product thereof, and an adder for adding the contour component output from the coefficient control unit to said input video signal to output the sum as a contour-emphasized video signal.
2. A contour emphasizing circuit according to claim 1, wherein the level judging unit comprises a decoder for interpreting whether the luminance level of the input video signal corresponds to which of  $n$  number ( $n = 2$  or larger integers) of luminance levels, and the coefficient control unit comprises  $n$  number of multipliers for multiplying the contour component sampled by using the contour pick-up unit by the coefficient corresponding to one of said  $n$  number of luminance levels for outputting the product thereof,  $n$  number of AND gates respectively connected to the output sides of the  $n$  number of multipliers for using the signal interpreted by said decoder as gate control signal, and an OR gate connected to the output sides of the  $n$  number of AND gates.
3. A contour emphasizing circuit according to claim 2, wherein the level judging unit comprises the decoder for interpreting whether the luminance level of input video signal corresponds to which of four luminance levels, and the coefficient control unit comprises four multipliers for multiplying the contour components sampled by using the contour pick-up unit by any of coefficients  $1/8$ ,  $1/4$ ,  $1/2$  and  $1$  for outputting the product thereof, four AND gates respectively connected to the output sides of the four multipliers for using the signal

interpreted by said decoder as gate control signal, the OR gate connected to the output sides of the four AND gates.

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4. A contour emphasizing circuit according to claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~, wherein the contour pick-up  
5 unit comprises a horizontal contour component pick-up unit for sampling the contour component in horizontal direction from input video signal.

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